

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

May 14, 2003

LB 407

on. You're recognized to...he waives the opportunity to close. The question before the body is adoption of AM1912, offered by Senator Schrock to LB 407. All in favor of the motion vote aye, opposed nay. We're voting on adoption of AM1912, offered by Senator Schrock. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 10 ayes, 15 nays, Mr. President, on the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was not successful.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have nothing further pending on LB 407.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Open for discussion on LB 407. Senator Maxwell.

SENATOR MAXWELL: Thank you, Mr. President. With some regret, I rise in opposition to LB 407. I want to go back to a question Senator Vrtiska asked at the start of the debate this morning or early on in the debate. It was in reference to the Bromm amendment where we made the cuts to K-12 and higher education, and he asked, if we do this, then where are we? And the answer was, well, there's still a \$315 million hole to fill. His next question was, okay, then where do we go from there? And where we go from there is extending LB 1085 from last year. We'll have to do some other taxes as well, but there's no way you can vote for LB 407 unless you're ready to extend LB 1085. I was going to wait and say this when we were on the tax legislation, but then it occurred to me really it's tied into what we're doing right now. This is actually the time to make a statement. And, if you want my candid opinion, I think this bill is probably going to pass, but I still want to get this statement on the record. You can't vote for this bill unless you're going to extend the LB 1085 tax package. We had a President who once said, read my lips, no new taxes. And he broke that pledge and he paid a price for it. In this state, we had a Governor who made a public pledge to serve his entire second term of office if reelected. He broke that pledge and I think he paid a price for it. Last year, in here, we said to the public, okay, we realize we probably overextended ourselves in the late nineties. We've got to make some fundamental changes in our fiscal system,